

1. An Examiner's Amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 C.F.R. § 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the Issue Fee.

Authorization for this Examiner's Amendment was given in a telephone interview with R. Allen C. Yun on 3/14/2011.

2. The application has been amended as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Claim 4 (Currently amended) The tumor necrosis factor mutant protein of claim 1, which comprises either (i) the amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs:9 to 22, or (ii) the amino acid sequence, wherein one or more amino acid residues selected from the group consisting of the 11th, 65th, 90th, 98th, 112th and 128th amino acid residues of said amino acid sequence (i) are replaced with lysine residues.

In claim 6, line 2, after "claim 1," delete "which conjugates with", substitute therefor
--conjugated to--.

Please add new claims 12-14

Claim 12 (New) A tumor necrosis factor composition, which comprises the tumor necrosis factor mutant protein of claim 1 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

Claim 13 (New) A tumor necrosis factor composition, which comprises the tumor necrosis factor mutant protein of claim 2 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

Claim 14 (New) A tumor necrosis factor composition, which comprises the tumor necrosis factor mutant protein of claim 4 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

Please cancel claims 5, 8, 10-11, without prejudice.

3. The title of the application has been amended to recite "tumor necrosis factor-alpha mutants".

4. Claims 1-3, 4, 6, 9, and 12-14, are allowable and have been renumbered 1-3, 5, 6, 4, and 7-9, respectively.

Advisory Information

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Prema Mertz whose telephone number is (571) 272-0876. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 7:00AM to 3:30PM (Eastern time).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Gary Nickol, can be reached on (571) 272-0835.

Official papers filed by fax should be directed to (571) 273-8300. Faxed draft or informal communications with the examiner should be directed to (571) 273-0876.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

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Art Unit 1646

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